

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Office of Medicaid**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Coronavirus Update: Due to the coronavirus emergency, MassHealth is holding public hearings remotely. All public hearings will occur on the advertised dates and times. Details and instructions for participating and testifying remotely (such as through phone line or online connection) at the remote public hearings will be published online at www.mass.gov/service-details/masshealth-public-hearings and are included in this notice below. If you plan to testify at the remote hearing, MassHealth strongly encourages you to register in advance; see below for instructions. MassHealth encourages you to submit written testimony in addition to, or instead of, providing testimony at the hearing; see below for instructions. Additionally, requests for copies of proposed regulations will not be accepted in person. Details for obtaining copies of proposed regulations are set forth below.

To join the hearing online, go to <https://statema.webex.com>, and enter meeting ID 644 151 469. To join the hearing by phone, call (866) 692-3580, and enter meeting ID 644 151 469# when prompted.

Pursuant to the authority of M.G.L. c. 6A, s. 16 and in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, a public hearing will be held on Friday, February 12, at 10 a.m. relative to the adoption of:

130 CMR 403.000: Home Health Agency

The proposed revisions to 130 CMR 403.000 update, clarify, and reorder the Home Health Agency program regulations. Amendments establish and clarify prior authorization limits and requirements; establish that home health aide services may be provided absent a need for skilled nursing services, and sets standards for training and competency of home health aides; expands providers qualified to order home health services; and clarifies and strengthens prohibited marketing activities for home health agencies. The proposed amendments also remove continuous skilled nursing (CSN) services, as agency-based CSN services are being established in a new program regulation concurrent with the promulgation of amendments to 130 CMR 403.000.

The proposed regulation is planned to go into effect no sooner than May 1, 2021. There is no fiscal impact on cities and towns.

Individuals who notify MassHealth of their intent to testify at the hearing will be afforded an earlier opportunity to speak. Speakers are strongly encouraged to notify MassHealth of their intention to testify at the hearing by registering online at www.mass.gov/service-details/masshealth-public-hearings. Individuals may also submit written testimony by emailing masshealthpublicnotice@mass.gov. Please submit electronic testimony as an attached Word document or as text within the body of the email with the name of the regulation in the subject line. All submissions must include the sender's full name,

mailing address, and organization or affiliation, if any. Individuals who are unable to submit testimony by email should mail written testimony to EOHHS, c/o D. Briggs, 100 Hancock Street, 6th Floor, Quincy, MA 02171. Written testimony must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 12.

All persons desiring to review the current draft of the proposed actions may go to www.mass.gov/service-details/masshealth-public-hearings or request a copy in writing from MassHealth Publications, 100 Hancock Street, 6th Floor, Quincy, MA 02171.

Special accommodation requests may be directed to the Disability Accommodations Ombudsman by email at ADAAccommodations@state.ma.us or by phone at (617) 847-3468 (TTY: (617) 847-3788 for people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or speech disabled). Please allow two weeks to schedule sign language interpreters.

MassHealth may adopt a revised version of the proposed actions taking into account relevant comments and any other practical alternatives that come to its attention.

In case of inclement weather or other emergency, hearing cancellation announcements will be posted on the MassHealth website at www.mass.gov/service-details/masshealth-public-hearings.

January 22, 2021